

HB 710 with HCA 1 to HCA 1, and HCA 1 as amended -- HUNTING AND FISHING PERMITS

SPONSOR: Basye

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 8 to 4.

This bill allows any United States citizen who is not a Missouri resident but owns property or pays income taxes in Missouri to receive resident hunting, fishing, or trapping permit privileges.

HCA 1: Allow any U.S. citizen, business, or corporation who is not a Missouri resident but owns more than 80 acres of real property in the state to only pay 50% of the non-resident fee for any hunting, fishing, or trapping permit for use on the real property owned

HCA 1 to HCA 1: Reduces the necessary acreage from 80 acres to 75 acres

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that people who own property in the state pay taxes to the state and should be allowed to purchase resident hunting, fishing, or trapping permits.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Basye.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that Missouri offers some of the lowest non-resident hunting permits and no other state offers resident permit prices for nonresident landowners. This bill would allow nonresidents an advantage that their home states do not provided to Missourians.

Testifying against the bill were Mark Whittington, Whitetails Unlimited Members; and Conservation Federation Of Missouri.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the Department of Conservation issues approximately 350,000 non resident permits each year. The department's regulations were updated in 2008 to remove the nonresident landowner permits; however the department is currently surveying residents about permit regulations, including nonresident permit prices.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Department Of Conservation.